

## 2005 DRAFTING REQUEST

### Bill

Received: **04/11/2006**

Received By: **rchampag**

Wanted: **Soon**

Identical to LRB:

For: **Mark Pettis (608) 267-2365**

By/Representing: **Alan Colvin**

This file may be shown to any legislator: **NO**

Drafter: **rchampag**

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject: **Employ Pub - employee benefits**

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: **YES**

Requester's email: **Rep.Pettis@legis.state.wi.us**

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

---

### Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

---

### Topic:

Health insurance coverage for state employees who take leave of absences to work on political campaigns

---

### Instructions:

Prohibit insurance coverage for state employees who take leave of absences to work on political campaigns

---

### Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?				_____			State
/1	rchampag 04/12/2006	wjackson 04/12/2006	jfrantze 04/13/2006	_____	sbasford 04/13/2006 mbarman 04/21/2006	mbarman 04/21/2006	

FE Sent For: **04/21/2006.**

→ ("1") ← per RAC

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*Handwritten notes:*  
A bubble around "mbarman 04/21/2006" with an arrow pointing to another bubble that says "e-mail sent".

FE Sent For: **04/21/2006.**

*Handwritten note in a bubble:*  
changed  
per RAC  
04-21-06

*Arrows from the bubble point to:*  
- "Received: 04/11/2006"  
- "Subject: Employ Pub - employee benefits"  
- "Received By: rchampag"

Received By: **rchampag**

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**2005 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Bill**

Received: **04/11/2006**

Received By: **rchampag**

Wanted: **Soon**

Identical to LRB:

For: **Mark Gundrum (608) 267-5158**

By/Representing: **Himself**

This file may be shown to any legislator: **NO**

Drafter: **rchampag**

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject: **Employ Pub - employee benefits**

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: **YES**

Requester's email: **Rep.Gundrum@legis.state.wi.us**

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

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/?				_____			State
/1	rchampag 04/12/2006	wjackson 04/12/2006	jfrantze 04/13/2006	_____	sbasford 04/13/2006		

FE Sent For:

**<END>**

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**Bill**

Received: **04/11/2006**

Received By: **rchampag**

Wanted: **Soon**

Identical to LRB:

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By/Representing: **Himself**

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Drafter: **rchampag**

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject: **Employ Pub - employee benefits**

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: **YES**

Requester's email: **Rep.Gundrum@legis.state.wi.us**

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

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**Pre Topic:**

No specific pre topic given

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**Topic:**

Health insurance coverage for state employees who take leave of absences to work on political campaigns

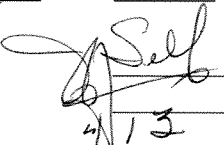
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## Aides' costs shift to campaigns

### State won't pay health care for those on leave

By **STACY FORSTER**  
sforster@journalsentinel.com

**Posted: April 10, 2006**

**Madison** - Legislative campaigns this year will largely pick up the tab for a portion of health costs for aides who take unpaid leaves to do election work, rather than continuing the practice the state picking up those costs.

*Advertisement*

In 2004, taxpayers picked up \$39,665 for the state's share of health care costs, while aides on leaves of absence paid for the rest of the premiums.

This fall, three of the four committees that work within the state parties on behalf of legislative candidates have said they plan to have campaigns or the party pay for the state's share of health care costs for employees on leave. They are the Committee to Elect a Republican Senate, the Republican Assembly Campaign Committee and the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committ

The State Senate Democratic Committee said it had only one employee take a leave in 2004 at no cost to the state, and it expect it will need to address the issue this fall.

The changes come after five former lawmakers were convicted charges of directing legislative aides to do campaign work on time. Testimony in the trial of former Rep. Scott Jensen (R-To Brookfield) revealed that aides working for both parties had a of mixing state and political activities while being paid by tax

Joe Heim, a professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, praised lawmakers for taking a positive

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and encouraged them to formally change the policies governing campaign leave.

"For longer-term benefit to improve the overall environment, want to make this more permanent," Heim said. "They could do this for a Band-Aid now to make things look good."

Legislative rules have long allowed for campaign-related leave in the absence that mirror those allowed across state government. A state worker can take an unpaid leave and have the state pick up its share of health care, as long as employees pay their share of the premiums.

Some say the practice of allowing campaign leaves during election season achieves far more in overall savings by removing workers from the public payroll during a slow time in the Capitol. They argue that it's better for aides to take formal leaves to campaign rather than doing that work on state time - a practice that led to charges in the Capitol corruption case.

In the 2004 elections, 32 Assembly staffers and 14 Senate aides took campaign-related leaves, according to records provided by the clerks of each house.

Twenty-four of the Assembly staffers worked for Republicans, costing \$14,500 in health care costs, while eight worked for Democrats, costing \$8,335 in health care costs. Of the 14 Senate aides, only one was a Democratic staffer, who incurred no health care costs; Republican aides cost the state \$16,830.

### Sensitive issue

The Committee to Elect a Republican Senate has advised members up for re-election to factor into their campaign budgets the health care costs for employees on leave, said Keith Gilkes, executive director of the group. His group will pick up the tab for aides directly for the committee, he added.

"There's an extreme sensitivity to any type of relationship between the political side and the state time, and we'll do it to keep that separation," Gilkes said.

Jim Smith, director of the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee, said the political environment requires campaigns to rethink policies to avoid any questions or concerns about impropriety.

"There were a whole lot of things that were done before that just don't apply anymore," Smith said. "I'm certainly not going to do anything to get a staffer, or a legislator, or myself in hot water."

The Republican Assembly candidates also are expected to build health care costs into campaign budgets, said Mark Jefferson, Assembly campaign director for the Republican Party of Wisconsin.

"I just think they would just as soon not have the taxpayers picking up the tab, in the atmosphere we're in," Jefferson said. "We'll have to raise a little more money to pay for that, but it's not insurmountable."

Staffing costs already are built into the campaign budget for Racine County Executive Bill McReynolds, who is running for the Republican nomination for Senate seat left open by Sen. Stepp (R-Sturtevant), who isn't seeking re-election. McReynolds said the campaign could absorb

any health care costs for legislative staffers who might take leave to work on his race.

Rep. John Lehman (D-Racine), a candidate for the Democratic nomination, said he doesn't expect any state workers to take leave to work on his campaign.


From the April 11, 2006 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
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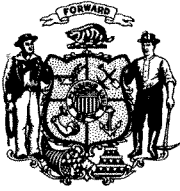
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State of Wisconsin  
2005 - 2006 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4907/1

RAC.....

WJ

Thurs

2005 BILL

- gen cat.

- 1 AN ACT ...; relating to: payment of health insurance premiums for state  
2 employees who take certain leaves of absence.

*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Currently, for state employees, health insurance premiums are generally paid two months prior to the time that the employees actually receive the coverage. A state employee who terminates state employment or who takes a leave of absence therefore receives paid health insurance coverage for at least two months after his or her date of separation from employment. Currently, most of the premium cost for state employee health care coverage is paid by the state. <sup>the state pays</sup>

This bill provides that any state employee who takes a leave of absence may not receive during the leave of absence any health insurance coverage, the premiums of which are paid in whole or part <sup>by the state</sup> paid by the state, if during any part of the leave of absence the employee is a candidate for a partisan political office or a nonpartisan state elected office or the employee is employed by a political party, candidate, or political committee.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

- 3 SECTION 1. 230.40 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:



**BILL****SECTION 1**

1           230.40 (5m) (a) A classified or unclassified employee who takes a leave of  
2       absence may not receive during the leave of absence any health insurance coverage  
3       under subch. IV of ch. 40, the premiums of which are paid in whole or part paid by  
4       the state, if any of the following occur:

5           1. During any part of the leave of absence, the employee is a candidate for a  
6       partisan political office or a nonpartisan state elected office.

7           2. During any part of the leave of absence, the employee is employed by a  
8       candidate for a partisan political office or a nonpartisan state elected office, a  
9       political party, as defined in s. 5.02 (13), or by a committee, as defined in s. 11.01 (4).

10          (b) An employee described under par. (a) 1. or 2. may elect to continue to receive  
11       the health insurance coverage under subch. IV of ch. 40 that he or she received  
12       immediately before taking a leave of absence by paying the entire premium cost for  
13       the health insurance coverage.

14           **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

15          (1) This act first applies to state employees who begin leaves of absence on the  
16       effective date of this subsection.

17                               (END)

## **Champagne, Rick**

---

**From:** Champagne, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2006 10:37 AM  
**To:** Colvin, Alan  
**Cc:** Rep.Gundrum

Al:

Per your request, we are jacketing LRB-4907/1 as an Assembly Bill for Rep. Pettis and will start the Fiscal Estimate process.

Rick

# Memo

To: Senator ☐ Representative ☒

**Pettis**

(The Draft's Requester)

**Per your request: ... the attached fiscal estimate was prepared for your unIntroduced 2005 draft.**

LRB Number: LRB

**-4907**

Version:

**" / 1 "**

Fiscal Estimate Prepared By: (agency abbr.)

**ETF**

If you have questions about the enclosed fiscal estimate, you may contact the state agency representative that prepared the fiscal estimate. If you disagree with the enclosed fiscal estimate, please contact the LRB drafter of your proposal to discuss your options under the fiscal estimate procedure.

Entered In Computer And Copy Sent To Requester Via E-Mail:

**04 / 21 / 2006**

\* \* \* \* \*

**To: LRB – Legal Section PA's**

**Subject:** *Fiscal Estimate Received For An Unintroduced Draft*

> **If redrafted** ... please insert this cover sheet and attached early fiscal estimate into the drafting file ... after the draft's old version (the version that this fiscal estimate was based on), and before the markup of the draft on the updated version.

> **If introduced** ... and the version of the attached fiscal estimate is for a **previous version** ... please insert this cover sheet and attached early fiscal estimate into the drafting file ... after the draft's old version (the version that this fiscal estimate was based on), and before the markup of the draft on the updated version. Have Mike (or Lynn) get the ball rolling on getting a fiscal estimate prepared for the introduced version.

> **If introduced** ... and the version of the attached fiscal estimate is for the **current version** ... please write the draft's introduction number below and give to Mike (or Lynn) to process.

**THIS DRAFT WAS INTRODUCED AS: 2005**

**AB-1188**

## Barman, Mike

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**From:** Barman, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2006 3:05 PM  
**To:** Rep.Pettis  
**Cc:** Colvin, Alan  
**Subject:** LRB 05-4907/1 (un-introduced) (FE by ETF - attached - for your review)

**Attachments:** FE\_Pettis.PDF



FE\_Pettis.PDF (244  
KB)